

Queen's University
Performing Arts Office
presents

A National Youth Orchestra Production
ESPRIT CONTEMPORAIN

Conductor: **ALEX PAUK**



20 August 1983 at 7:30 pm. in Grant Hall

Program

Songs of Paradise
(1983)

Alexina Louie
(b. 1949)

*Alchemies
(1983)
(World Première)

John Burke
(b. 1951)

Intermission

Plages
(1981)

Serge Garant
(b. 1929)

*Vanishing Points _____
(1983)
(World Première)

John Rea
(b. 1944)

**Commissioned by the National Youth Orchestra with the assistance
of the Canada Council.*

Alex Pauk

Though best known as a composer, Alex Pauk (born in Toronto, 1945) received his formal training primarily as a conductor. His initial interest in composition developed through his participation in an improvisational group which he formed during his undergraduate years at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. This experience led him in the direction of helping to found the Toronto composers' group Array and it was with this group's first concert in 1971 that he made his debut as a composer and conductor of new music.

After completing his Bachelor's degree, he spent two years as a participant in the Ontario Arts Council's Conductors' Workshop, later proceeding to Tokyo where he furthered his study of conducting at the Toho Gakuen School of Music and became acquainted with many Japanese composers and their music.

Upon returning to Canada in 1973 he moved to Vancouver and immediately received a grant under the City Artists Programme to compose music for local musicians. Pauk's conducting and organizational abilities next came into play when he formed one of Canada's leading new music ensembles, Days Months and Years to Come. Through his involvement with this group he not only developed further as a composer, but was able to promote the work of other composers by conducting the premiere performances of both commissioned and non-commissioned pieces, giving many of the country's young creative musicians valuable exposure.

Since his first days in Vancouver, Pauk has received numerous awards and commissions and has had his music performed by many of Canada's foremost ensembles including the Vancouver New Music Society, Toronto New Music Concerts, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, C.B.C. Vancouver Chamber Orchestra, Canadian Electronic Ensemble, National Youth Orchestra, as well as Array and Days Months and Years to Come. During the past several years he has been active as a composer of film scores and music for the theatre.

Pauk has always maintained a special interest in the development of young musicians and has had considerable involvement with organizations such as the Vancouver Youth Orchestra, Courtenay Youth Music Centre, Vancouver Community College and, in particular, the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

Following a year of travel and study in Europe (1978-79), under the auspices of the Canada Council, Alex Pauk moved back to his native city, Toronto, where he freelances as a composer and conductor. He is currently President of The Canadian League of Composers.

Esprit Contemporain

In keeping with a policy of benefiting the cultural heritage of Canada, Suncor Inc. proudly announces its sponsorship of *Esprit Contemporain*, a new orchestra devoted to the performance of recent Canadian music.

This unique venture provides an important opportunity for the country's young composers to receive much needed exposure of their work. It has as its focal point the creation of a new repertoire which is accessible to the majority of orchestras in Canada.

The ensemble, conducted by Alex Pauk, is made up of highly skilled young professional musicians with a special interest in further familiarizing themselves with the sounds and techniques of Canada's newest repertoire.

In addition to the corporate sponsorship of Suncor Inc. this project is assisted through the kind support of the Canada Council. The commissions for this programme were initiated by the National Youth Orchestra of Canada which is also responsible for concert production.

Acknowledgements for the 1983 Season

The NYO would like to thank the Canada Council, the provincial and municipal government granting agencies, the City of Kingston, and all the foundations, corporations and individual donors who have given support in 1983.

American Express Canada Inc. are responsible for the production of the NYO booklet "*Who we are and what we do.*"

We would like to thank Guy St. Amant, Ruth Budd, Pamela Davidson, Dr. Martin Rodenburg, the Kingston Symphony, the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony and the Canadian Forces Vimy Band for generously loaning us instruments.

We also give particular thanks to our 1983 session hosts, Queen's University Conference Office and Queen's University Music Department. The performances are made possible by the additional co-operation of the American Federation of Musicians Locals 149 (Toronto) and 518 (Kingston); and the Performing Arts Office of Queen's University.

National Youth Orchestra 1983 Season

Violin

Anne Rapson,
Concertmistress

Gordon Lucas

Joan McDonald

Anne Richard

Marianne Urke

Olga Ranzenhofer

Josée Tellier

Marc Sabat

Viola

Larry Blackman

David Wadley

Andrew Bacon

Cello

John Helmers

Peter Rapson

Shaun Pomer

Bass

Ralph Blackman
François Myrand

Flute

Julie Ranti
Janet Ogryzlo

Oboe

Ian Franklin
Janet Page

Clarinet

John Rapson
Greg James

Bassoon

Claire Newman
Leslie Magowan

Horn

Lise Vaugeois
Raymond Bisha
Diane Fair James
Jean-Marc Dugré

Trumpet

Donald Schultz
John Kargut

Trombone

Gordon Griffiths
Paul Hawkshaw

Percussion

Carol Buehler
Bruce Brander
Dwight Bronson

Harp

Nathalie Teevin

Piano

Guy Few

The musicians playing for Esprit Contemporain perform professionally with the following ensembles:

Aeolos Brass Quintet

Array Music

Bonn Stadtsorchester

Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra

CBC Chamber Orchestra (Vancouver)

Chicago Civic Orchestra

CJRT Radio Orchestra

Edmonton Symphony Orchestra

Erste Osterreichische (Vienna)

Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Orchestra

Mississauga Symphony Orchestra

Montreal Symphony Orchestra

National Ballet of Canada Orchestra

Prince George Symphony Orchestra

Regina Symphony Orchestra

Royal Winnipeg Ballet Orchestra

Symphony Nova Scotia

Trois Rivières Orchestra

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra

Final Concert of the Summer

Thursday 25 August 7:30 pm. Grant Hall

Marius Constant conducts:

Mozart - Overture: The Impresario

Debussy/Constant - Pelléas et Mélisande Symphonie

Strauss - Ein Heldenleben

Tickets: \$6.00 adults, \$4.00 students/seniors, \$2.00 children.

Available in advance at the Performing Arts Office, 547-6194, or at the door.